Saint Leo University
Drone Policy

OBJECTIVE:

To provide administrative roles, responsibilities, and procedures for the use of unmanned aircraft systems when operated on University property.

OVERVIEW:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and relevant state and federal law, regulates the operation of unmanned aircraft systems, including drones and model aircraft. Saint Leo establishes this policy to ensure compliance with those legal obligations for the safety and welfare of its students, employees and visitors.

DEFINITIONS:

1. "Unmanned Aircraft System" (UAS), is defined by the FAA as "an unmanned aircraft weighing less than 55lbs." Pursuant to Section 331(8) of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Pub. L. 112-95). USA are commonly referred to as drones, is defined by the FAA as "the unmanned aircraft and all of the associated support equipment, control station, data links, telemetry, communications and navigation equipment, etc., necessary to operate the unmanned aircraft.
2. "Unmanned aircraft" (UA) is defined by the FAA as "an aircraft that is operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft," pursuant to Section 331(8) of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Pub. L. 112-95).
3. "Small unmanned aircraft" is defined by the FAA as "an unmanned aircraft weighing less than 55 lbs." pursuant to Section 331(6) of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Pub. L. 112-95).
4. "Model aircraft" is defined by the FAA as an "unmanned aircraft that is (1) capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere; (2) flown within the visual line of sight of the person operating the aircraft; and (3) flown for hobby or recreational purposes"' pursuant to Section 336© of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Pub. L. 112-95).

POLICY:

All Operators of UAS must abide by these regulations:

1. Weight of the unmanned aircraft must not exceed *25 pounds*.
2. Operators must keep the unmanned aircraft within your visual line of sight at all times.
3. Unmanned aircraft must not exceed *400 feet of altitude*. (FAA)
4. Unmanned aircraft may not be equipped with metal blade propellers. (AMA)
5. Unmanned aircraft may not fly directly over unprotected people, property or structures. (AMA)

6. May not operate an unmanned aircraft in a reckless or careless manner or under the influence of alcohol/ drugs.
7. Flying beyond your established flight line or designated perimeter is strictly prohibited.
8. All "Drones" must be registered with Campus Security & Safety. Failure to register may result in fines, disciplinary action and/ or loss of privilege to possess UAS on campus.
9. All drone activity (either hobbyist or commercial operator) over university property is subject to university approval. Commercial users must provide proof of FAA approval and must be insured.
10. Remain well clear of, and do not interfere with, manned aircraft operations.
11. Do not fly a drone within five miles of an airport unless you notify the airport and control tower ahead of time**.**
12. Do not fly near people, stadiums or sporting events.
13. Never fly near emergency response efforts (fires, ambulance, etc.)

LOCATIONS AND TIME RESTRICTIONS:

A drone fly zone has been established in the "Bowl" and all drone flights are restricted to this area only. Flights are further restricted to the hours of 10am thru 5pm. Drones are not permitted to be operated after dark.

LIABLE FOR DAMAGES:

The university assumes no liability for personal injury and/or property damage caused by drone operators on campus.

ACADEMIC USE OF DRONES:

If drones are used for teaching purposes they must be University-owned. University owned drones which cause or become associated with damages will be forwarded to Risk Management for review. University drone operators will be required to obtain proper licensing. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) now requires every drone owner to register each drone that is purchased weighing over 55lbs. If your drone is NOT registered you may be subject to the legal consequences defined in the U.S. Government drone regulation.

CAMERA USAGE:

If UAS is equipped with a camera/recording device, the operator must receive approval from Campus Security and Safety prior to recording.

The rules for operating an unmanned aircraft depend on why you want to fly.

The rules for operating an unmanned aircraft

	Fly for Fun	Fly for Work
Pilot Requirements	No pilot requirements	Must have Remote Pilot Airman Certificate Must be 16 years old Must pass TSA vetting
Aircraft Requirements	Must be registered if over 0.55 lbs.	Must be less than 55 lbs. Must be registered if over 0.55 lbs. (online) Must undergo pre-flight check to ensure UAS is in condition for safe operation
Location Requirements	5 miles from airports without prior notification to airport and air traffic control	Class G airspace*
Operating Rules	Must ALWAYS yield right of way to manned aircraft Must keep the aircraft in sight (visual line-of-sight) UAS must be under 55 lbs. Must follow community-based safety guidelines Must notify airport and air traffic control tower before flying within 5 miles of an airport	Must keep the aircraft in sight (visual line-of-sight)* Must fly under 400 feet* Must fly during the day* Must fly at or below 100 mph* Must yield right of way to manned aircraft* Must NOT fly over people* Must NOT fly from a moving vehicle*
Example Applications	Educational or recreational flying only	Flying for commercial use (e.g. providing aerial surveying or photography services) Flying incidental to a business (e.g. doing roof inspections or real estate photography)
Legal or Regulatory Basis	Public Law 112-95, Section 336 – *Special Rule for Model Aircraft* FAA Interpretation of the Special Rule for Model Aircraft	Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulation (14 CFR) Part 107

Check out http://knowbeforeyoufly.org/ for more information on flying responsibly.